Oppose Governors's Bill 7150

I urge you to oppose Governor's Bill 7150 Section 1 that passes on the state's share of costs for nonpublic school health services onto parents. We struggle enough in the town to have to pay this also and our education is already suffering. This is why we pay taxes and have our children to Catholic school.

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Student health and safety must not be a starting point to balance state and local budgets.

- Our families are relieving our towns and state from the responsibility of educating our children, thereby saving taxpayers millions of dollars year after year.
- This is a matter of public health, not education, and has been a mandate for over 50 years.
- We, Catholic school parents, pay state income taxes, local property taxes (directly billed through home ownership or indirectly through rent), gas taxes, and sales taxes.
- Our children should not be treated differently because we made a religious choice to educate them in our faith.
- These costs would have to be passed down to us, tuition paying parents. This will amount to double taxation for these services, since we have already been paying for them through local and state taxes.
- To add insult to injury, this bill would require our least wealthy schools to pay at least 80% of the costs. Our least fortunate students would be hurt the most. Our middle income families would also be assessed extra fees.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Tagan